

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 03290 01 OF 02 221944Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 INR-10 CIAE-00
SP-02 PM-05 DODE-00 IO-13 L-03 PA-01 NSAE-00
/077 W
-----119700 222037Z /40 L

R 221753Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6104
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 03290

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, GW, EG
SUBJECT: KAMEL VISIT TO FRG

REFS: (A) BONN 02628 (NOTAL); (B) BONN 03105 (NOTAL);
(C) BONN 01459 (NOTAL)

1. EGYPTIAN FOREIGN MINISTER KAMEL DEPARTS GERMANY TODAY AFTER A NINE-DAY VISIT DEVOTED PRIMARILY TO HOUSEKEEPING AFFAIRS RELATED TO HIS AMBASSADORIAL TOUR HERE. KAMEL ALSO CALLED ON CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT (FEBRUARY 17) AND PRESIDENT SCHEEL AND FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER (FEBRUARY 15). THE FOREIGN OFFICE ADVISES THAT THE MEETING WITH SCHMIDT WAS A TETE-A-TETE AND THE CHANCELLOR HAS NOT YET BRIEFED ON THE CONVERSATION. THE DIRECTOR OF MIDDLE EASTERN AFFAIRS (BOECKER) GAVE US A READOUT OF KAMEL'S MEETING WITH GENSCHER.

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2. KAMEL REHASHED MANY OF THE POINTS MADE DURING HIS FEBRUARY 9 DISCUSSION WITH GENSCHER (REF A), I.E. HIS AND SADAT'S SATISFACTION WITH THEIR WASHINGTON VISIT; THEIR OPTIMISM REGARDING THE FUTURE COURSE OF THE EGYPTIAN INITIATIVE; THE IMPORTANCE OF THE EC'S ROLE IN ADVOCATING ISRAELI FLEXIBILITY; AND NO NEED FOR A PUBLIC DECLARATION BY THE NINE AT THIS TIME.

KAMEL ALSO MADE THE POINTS SUMMARIZED BELOW.

3. KAMEL STRESSED THAT THE CONSISTENCY OF US POLICY WAS A PREREQUISITE TO PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST. HE FERVENTLY HOPED THAT THE FORTHCOMING BEGIN VISIT WOULD NOT CHANGE THE US POSITION AS OUTLINED BY THE PRESIDENT TO SADAT. THE EUROPEANS HAD A RESPONSIBILITY TO MAKE CLEAR TO THE US THAT A CONSISTENT AND EVEN-HANDED POLICY BY WASHINGTON WAS ALSO VITAL TO EUROPE'S INTEREST IN THE AREA.

4. KAMEL SAID ISRAEL NOW REALIZED THAT A SEPARATE PEACE WAS OUT OF THE QUESTION. MOREOVER, BEGIN WAS NOW AWARE THAT SUCH A PEACE WAS NOT IN ISRAEL'S INTEREST EITHER SINCE IT WOULD NOT PRODUCE STABILITY IN THE MIDDLE EAST. THERE WOULD, FOR EXAMPLE, BE NO GUARANTEE THAT EGYPT WOULD NOT BE DRAWN ANEW INTO ARAB-ISRAELI DIFFERENCES WHICH WOULD LIKELY FOLLOW A SEPARATE PEACE.

5. EGYPT WOULD CONTINUE WORKING FOR A DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES WHICH, IN ORDER TO BRING JORDAN AND SYRIA INTO THE NEGOTIATIONS, MUST INCLUDE SATISFACTORY FORMULATIONS ON ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES AND ON A SETTLEMENT OF THE PALESTINIAN RIGHTS QUESTION. AFTER THE DECLARATION HAD BEEN DRAFTED, CONFIDENTIAL

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CONTACTS WITH JORDAN COULD BEGIN ON THE PALESTINIAN QUESTION. IN ADDITION TO TEL AVIV AND AMMAN, PALESTINIAN REPRESENTATIVES, AND PROBABLY EGYPTIAN AND UN REPS WOULD ALSO PARTICIPATE IN THESE TALKS. AFTER JORDAN HAD ENTERED THE TALKS, BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS ON THE GOLAN HEIGHTS ISSUE COULD COMMENCE BETWEEN ISRAEL AND SYRIA.

6. REFERRING TO SADAT'S MEETING WITH CEAUSESCU, KAMEL SAID THE TWO HAD AGREED THAT THE USSR COULD NOT BE COMPLETELY EXCLUDED FROM THE NEGOTIATIONS, THOUGH ONE COULD DIFFER ON THE EXTENT OF SOVIET PARTICIPATION. KAMEL SAID IT WOULD BE SOME TIME BEFORE MOSCOW WAS READY TO PLAY A POSITIVE ROLE IN THE SADAT INITIATIVE. HE ADDED THAT THIS ALSO HELD TRUE FOR SYRIA.

7. KAMEL SAID BOTH HE AND SADAT HAD THE IMPRESSION THAT PEREZ AND HIS PARTY WERE MORE FLEXIBLE THAN BEGIN. THIS WAS PARTICULARLY TRUE ON THE SETTLEMENTS QUESTION, WHERE PEREZ HAD SAID HE WAS AGAINST ADDITIONAL

CONSTRUCTION DURING THE NEGOTIATIONS. PEREZ HAD
ALSO TOLD THE EGYPTIANS HE WANTED TO BRING THE
PALESTINIANS INTO THE NEGOTIATIONS TO PAVE THE WAY

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 03290

FOR HUSSEIN'S PARTICIPATION. IN RESPONSE, GENSCHER
SAID THAT THE FRG WOULD INCREASE ITS CONTACTS WITH THE
ISRAELI COALITION IN AN EFFORT TO MOVE IT TOWARD A MORE
FAVORABLE POSITION. GENSCHER EXPRESSED SOME SKEPTICISM
REGARDING THE PROSPECTS FOR SUCCESS.

8. GENSCHER SAID HE HAD DETECTED NO MOVEMENT IN THE
ISRAELI POSITION DURING HIS MEETING IN NEW YORK (DURING
THE PROXIMITY TALKS) WITH DAYAN. HE HAD ASKED DAYAN
WHAT WOULD HAPPEN TO THE PALESTINIANS LIVING OUTSIDE
THE WEST BANK AFTER THE FORMATION OF A PALESTINIAN
ENTITY THERE. DAYAN, IN RESPONSE, HAD SAID A LARGE
NUMBER OF PALESTINIANS COULD COME TO ISRAEL. KAMEL
OPINED THAT RELATIVELY FEW PALESTINIANS WOULD WANT TO
RETURN TO THE WEST BANK.

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9. AS NOTED REF C, KAMEL SPENT PART OF HIS TIME IN
BONN UNDER A DOCTOR'S CARE. FOREIGN OFFICE SOURCES
INFORM US THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTER HAS A CIRCULATORY
PROBLEM WHICH THEY BELIEVE WAS BROUGHT ABOUT BY WHAT
THEY DESCRIBED AS HIS EXTREME NERVOUSNESS.
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